

[Mr. C. S. Krishnasvami Aiyar.]

15. *Education*.—The allotment for the next year is Rs 48·13 lakhs, which is Rs 1·59 lakhs in excess of the anticipated expenditure of the current year. The Committee of technical experts and businessmen who met in connection with the proposal for the introduction of a course of technological study in the State held the unanimous opinion that early steps should be taken for the introduction of the practical alternative courses recommended by the Education Reforms Committee. As the introduction of such alternative courses in all the High Schools of the State simultaneously is not practicable until sufficient experience has been gained as a result of experiment, it is proposed to make a modest beginning by opening a separate division of Form V in the S. M. V. School, Trivandrum, in the school year 1935—36 followed by a separate division in Form VI in the school year 1936—1937. These divisions will be outside the English School Leaving Certificate scheme and the course of studies will consist of the Industrial arts of wood, glass and metals, of Accountancy and Book-keeping and of Mathematics and English. The students will be apprenticed to different business concerns during their training course. A sum of Rs 4,000 is provided in the budget for this experiment which, it is hoped, will give an impetus to technical education. Provision has also been made in the Education budget for the opening of the Malayalam Honours Course in His Highness the Maha Raja's College of Arts. The introduction of a State Library System has also been provided for with a view to prevent lapses into illiteracy and also to provide facilities for adult education.

16. *Agriculture and Fisheries*.—At the instance of the Agricultural Conference held at Quilon in March last, it is proposed to create a Board of Agriculture consisting of official and non-official members. The Board shall review the work of the Agricultural Department in its various stages and suggest new problems for research and devise fresh methods for propoganda work. It is hoped that the appointment of this Board will be of real use both to the department and to the public in bringing the departmental officers into closer contact with the non-official public and enabling them to discuss important questions connected with Agriculture. The Agricultural budget includes a small provision for the grant of travelling allowance to the non-official members of the Board. The opening of a Sugar-Cane Farm in South Travancore for carrying on intensive propoganda for the improvement of sugar-cane cultivation in the State has also been provided for. It is also proposed to appoint a staff of two Marketing Officers in co-operation with the Government of India in their scheme for the improvement of marketing in India.